



NOVEMBER 2017



Message from the Director

Dear River Road Families,

Well, here we are in a new month and new adventures. October was, as you know, full of great learning opportunities that were both engaging and fun for the children. Both classrooms were able to participate in a great field trip to Butlers Orchard. The children began their learning at school about farms, things on the farms, who cares for farms, etc.

Obviously, one of the most exciting things about the farm was being able to pick out their very own pumpkin for either decorating or carving at home with mom and dad. Taking concepts from school into their natural environments is surely a great way to bring all of their knowledge together to make sense of what they have either read about in books or just discussions they've had with their teachers. As always, learning takes place in both the school and the outside environments. Field trips are a great way to bring books and conversations alive!

Always feel free to call me if you would like to speak to me directly. The center phone number is 301-229-0474 or you can email me at LaTonya.Middleton@mccaedu.org

What's New

We are weeks away from going through our Accreditation process with the Maryland State Department of Education. For those of you who are not familiar with Accreditation, it is a process in which programs commit to continuous quality improvement, to benefit children, families and staff. Programs voluntarily pursue self-appraisal, program improvement and external program review to achieve and publicly confirm that they meet state, regional and/or national standards. We are both anxious and excited about going through the process of reaccreditation. The staff here at River Road, are some of the best supporters I've ever worked with since being in this field. River Road to me is a great place with great people, including staff, children and families. It is always great seeing your little people every morning and it's great talking with you all when you stop by or call. We are humbled and honored to be able to impart some love and fun times with your children each and everyday. So, please, whenever you can, come join this great group of teachers on some of your children's adventures in the classroom and see first hand what's going on here at River Road. We welcome you!





Important Reminders

- **Signing Your Child In and Out Each Day**—Please remember to sign your child in and out of the program each day. Your child's teacher will provide you with the sign in and out sheet. Families just need to note the time of drop off and pick up and initial in the spaces provided.
- **Informing Us if Your Child Will Be Absent**—If your child is not going to be coming to school please remember to let the staff know this in advance. It is important that we know if a child is not coming to the program. You can feel free to email me at LaTonya.Middleton@mccaedu.org or call the center at 301-229-0474

**Please read your parent handbook for updated information and important center related dates so you are always in the know. If anything changes within the calendar, I will inform you of those changes as soon as I receive new information.

Upcoming Dates

November

Thursday November 23rd and Friday November 24th, we are closed in recognition of Thanksgiving Day.

Suggested Resources and Reading

RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES

If you have not done so already, please check out the family resource section on MCCA's website. There you can find frequently used forms, our school calendar, MCCA's health guidelines and our family handbook.

Please, also check out these idea's for some family fun times in and around the city.

<http://kidfriendlydc.com/>